

Appl. No. 09/937,858
Amdt. dated September 16, 2003
Reply to Office action of June 16, 2003

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 6 and 11 are amended herein. The remaining claims are not further amended by this response. Claims 6, 9, 16 and 17 have been allowed. Claim 6 is amended herein to correct a typographical error wherein a hyphen was left out of the term "high-resolution".

Claims 1-5, 7, 8 and 10-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Cobbs et al (U.S. 5,600,350) in view of Goetz et al (U.S. 5,170,416). Applicant respectfully traverses.

In responding to applicant's previous arguments, the Examiner states that he disagrees with the applicant's assessment of Goetz et al that Goetz et al corrects the duty cycle of encoders but fails to provide a high resolution position detection. The Examiner further states that "A review of column 2, line 60 - column 3, line 4, column 7 lines 29-33 and the abstract of Goetz et al should make it clear that the synthetic encoder pulse is intended as a higher resolution position detection means than the low resolution linear scale (the high resolution detection is twice the resolution of the scale as taught in the abstract)."

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Applicant respectfully disagrees with that interpretation.

Column 2, lines 42-45 of Goetz et al states:

The dot clock pulses indicate the position of print head 10 to the control system (not shown). As can be seen from FIG. 2, the dot clock pulses are not evenly spaced." (Emphasis added).

This above noted portion clearly means that in Goetz et al. the number of dot clock pulses (which corresponds to a resolution) obtained by the use of the linear scale is not doubled by the timer but only the unevenness is corrected (see Fig. 2).

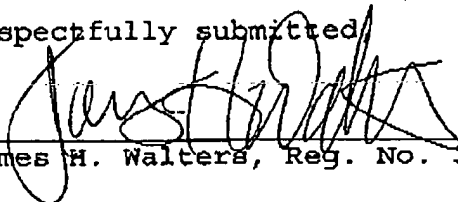
Even if the Examiner's interpretation of Goetz et al were followed, Goetz et al. fails to provide a resolution of more than twice as finely as a minimum unit determined by a resolution of the low resolution position detecting means.

Claims 1 and 11 are amended herein to clarify this point. In view of the above remarks and amendments, claims 1-5, 7, 8 and 10-15 are respectfully believed to be allowable.

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In light of the above noted amendments and remarks, this application is believed in condition for allowance and notice thereof is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is asked to contact applicant's attorney at 503-224-0115 if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted

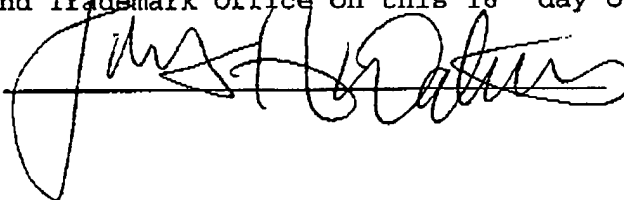

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